CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A method for controlling data flow using a leaky bucket data flow control scheme, the method comprising:

adjusting a granularity of the leaky bucket data flow scheme with a scalar parameter, the scalar parameter modifying the leaky bucket data flow control scheme to control data flow.

2.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

adjusting the scalar parameter based upon a user determined scaling value.

3.   The method according to claim 1, wherein the scalar parameter is within a predetermined range.

4.   The method according to claim 2, wherein the step of adjusting is performed dynamically.

5.   The method according to claim 1, wherein the scalar parameter modifies a bucket full ratio.

6.   A method for data flow control comprising:

scaling a control parameter for adjusting the granularity for controlling data flow based upon a leaky bucket data flow scheme, the

control parameter modifying a bucket capacity parameter for the leaky

bucket data.flow control scheme.

7.   The method according to claim 6, wherein the scaling is

performed within a predetermined range.

8.   The   method   according   to   claim   7,   wherein   the

predetermined   range   is   between   an   empty   bucket   level   and   a

maximum bucket level.

9.   The method according to claim 7, further comprising:

using a user defined scaling value for scaling the control

parameter.

10.   The method according to claim 7, wherein the bucket

capacity parameter is a bucket full ratio for the leaky bucket data flow

scheme.

11.   The method according to claim 7, further comprising:

dynamically adjusting the granularity based upon scaling of the

control parameter.

12.   The method according to claim 7, further comprising:

varying data flow based upon scaling of the control parameter.

13. A method for controlling data flow using a leaky bucket data flow control scheme, the method comprising:

modifying a bucket capacity indicator to provide enhanced granularity to the leaky bucket data flow control scheme.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein the bucket capacity indicator is a bucket full ratio.

15. The method according to claim 13, wherein the step of modifying comprises:

using a scalar value to modify the bucket capacity indicator.

16. The method according to claim 15, further comprising:

establishing the scalar value based upon system requirements.

17. The method according to claim 15, further comprising:

dynamically changing the scalar value.